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AP Literature and Composition

Mr. Lane

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*Othello* Letter Reflection

Writing the *Othello* letter was a challenge for me because I do not think I completely understood the prompt at first. I knew that the letter had to be in the form of an excuse, but I was not sure how to follow that format. To solve this problem, I thought about excuses written for me in the past, such as an excuse for being sick and missing school. After that point, it became a lot easier for me to write the excuse for a character in *Othello*. Once I wrote down a few sentences, the rest of the letter was not as challenging as the beginning.

In order to choose the character my excuse regarded, I thought about the character who made the most mistakes in the play. This character also required a justifiable reasoning for their actions, since the letter excused the characters actions. Othello was the first person who came to mind because he is basically tricked into acting the way he does in the play. Since Othello is not entirely to blame for his actions, he seemed like an appropriate candidate for the excuse letter. Othello was also a good person to write about since I was able to tie in Iago as a part of the excuse. I chose to write the letter to Desdemona because she is the character who Othello’s actions affect the most.

I liked the *Othello* letter because it was a creative assignment, which is what I enjoy the most. The letter also gave me a better understanding of *Othello* because I had to browse through the play in order to find examples to use in my letter. Revisiting certain scenes was beneficial to my total understanding of the play.